

## MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 852. An act to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse to be constructed at 10 East Commerce Street in Youngstown, Ohio, as the "Nathaniel R. Jones and Frank J. Battisti Federal Building and United States Courthouse"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

H.R. 1408. An act to safeguard the public from fraud in the financial services industry, to streamline and facilitate the antifraud information-sharing efforts of Federal and State regulators, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 2047. An act to authorize appropriations for the United States Patent and Trademark Office for fiscal year 2002, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 2998. An act to authorize the establishment of Radio Free Afghanistan; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 3167. An act to endorse the vision of further enlargement of the NATO Alliance articulated by President George W. Bush on June 15, 2001, and by former President William J. Clinton on October 22, 1996, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

The following concurrent resolution was read, and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 262. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the President, at the WTO round of negotiations to be held at Doha, Qatar, from November 9–13, 2001, and at any subsequent round of negotiations, should preserve the ability of the United States to enforce rigorously its trade laws and should ensure that United States exports are not subject to the abusive use of trade laws by other countries; to the Committee on Finance.

## REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. BAUCUS, from the Committee on Finance, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 942: A bill to authorize the supplemental grant for population increases in certain states under the temporary assistance to needy families program for fiscal year 2002. (Rept. No. 107–94).

## INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. THURMOND, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. CLELAND, Mr. BOND, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 1643. A bill to provide Federal reimbursement to State and local governments for a limited sales, use and retailers' occupation tax holiday; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CAMPBELL:

S. 1644. A bill to further the protection and recognition of veterans' memorials, and for

other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. HELMS:

S. 1645. A bill to provide for the promotion of democracy and rule of law in Belarus and for the protection of Belarus' sovereignty and independence; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself and Mr. DOMENICI):

S. 1646. A bill to identify certain routes in the States of Texas, Oklahoma, Colorado, and New Mexico as part of the Ports-to-Plains Corridor, a high priority corridor on the National Highway System; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mrs. LINCOLN:

S. 1647. A bill to amend title XVI of the Social Security Act to include any veterans' or survivors' compensation or pension in the determination of the yearly income disregard for purposes of the supplemental security income program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. LINCOLN:

S. 1648. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide an increase in the maximum annual rates of pension payable to surviving spouses of veterans of a period of war, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. CANTWELL (for herself and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 1649. A bill to amend the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996 to increase the authorization of appropriations for the Vancouver National Historic Reserve and for the preservation of Vancouver Barracks; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. CLELAND:

S. 1650. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to change provisions regarding emergencies; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. DORGAN (for himself, Mr. BROWNBACK, and Mr. CONRAD):

S. 1651. A bill to establish the United States Consensus Council to provide for a consensus building process in addressing national public policy issues, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. SANTORUM (for himself and Mr. MCCAIN):

S. 1652. A bill to amend the Agricultural Market Transition Act to convert the price support program for sugarcane and sugar beets into a system of solely recourse loans and to provide for the gradual elimination of the program; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

## ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 730

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. DASCHLE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 730, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the fair treatment of certain physician pathology services under the medicare program.

S. 990

At the request of Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 990, a bill to amend the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act to improve the provi-

sions relating to wildlife conservation and restoration programs, and for other purposes.

S. 1084

At the request of Mr. CHAFEE, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1084, a bill to prohibit the importation into the United States of diamonds unless the countries exporting the diamonds have in place a system of controls on rough diamonds, and for other purposes.

S. 1179

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1179, a bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to ensure an adequate level of commodity purchases under the school lunch program.

S. 1324

At the request of Mr. LIEBERMAN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1324, a bill to provide relief from the alternative minimum tax with respect to incentive stock options exercised during 2000.

S. 1377

At the request of Mr. SMITH of Oregon, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. BROWNBACK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1377, a bill to require the Attorney General to establish an office in the Department of Justice to monitor acts of inter-national terrorism alleged to have been committed by Palestinian individuals or individuals acting on behalf of Palestinian organizations and to carry out certain other related activities.

S. 1409

At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1409, a bill to impose sanctions against the PLO or the Palestinian Authority if the President determines that those entities have failed to substantially comply with commitments made to the State of Israel.

S. 1522

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1522, a bill to support community-based group homes for young mothers and their children.

S. 1523

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1523, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the Government pension offset and windfall elimination provisions.

S. 1548

At the request of Mrs. CARNAHAN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1548, a bill to allow the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to award a grant to

create and maintain a website with information regarding bioterrorism.

S. 1552

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1552, a bill to provide for grants through the Small Business Administration for losses suffered by general aviation small business concerns as a result of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

S. 1570

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. HUTCHINSON), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN), the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CONRAD), and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. JEFFORDS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1570, a bill to provide the Secretary of Education with specific waiver authority to respond to conditions in the national emergency declared by the President on September 14, 2001.

S. 1578

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1578, a bill to preserve the continued viability of the United States travel industry.

S. 1615

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1615, a bill to provide for the sharing of certain foreign intelligence information with local law enforcement personnel, and for other purposes.

S. 1627

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1627, a bill to enhance the security of the international borders of the United States.

S. 1630

At the request of Mrs. CARNAHAN, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. KOHL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1630, a bill to extend for 6 additional months the period for which chapter 12 of title 11, United States Code, is reenacted.

AMENDMENT NO. 2107

At the request of Mr. ALLEN, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. NICKLES) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2107 proposed to H.R. 2944, a bill making appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against the revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes.

# STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. THURMOND, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. CLELAND, Mr. BOND, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 1643. A bill to provide Federal reimbursement to State and local governments for a limited sales, use and retailers' occupation tax holiday; to the Committee on Finance.

Mrs. MURRAY. Madam President, I rise today along with my colleagues, Senator SNOWE, Senator LIEBERMAN, Senator SANTORUM, Senator DORGAN, Senator THURMOND, Senator DURBIN, Senator CRAIG, Senator CLELAND, Senator BOND, and Senator FEINSTEIN, to introduce the Sales Tax Holiday Act of 2001.

Our economy needs a shot in the arm. The GDP is declining, consumer confidence is at a 7-year low, and consumer spending has slowed to its lowest level in 8 years. But consumer spending is just what we need to get our economy going again. In fact, two-thirds of our economy depends on consumer spending.

Today, we are proposing an innovative way to get Americans back into stores and to get our economy back on its feet. What we are proposing is a national sales tax holiday, a 10-day period where every American can shop without having to pay a State sales tax.

The national sales tax holiday will save one money on everything from cars and computers to books and baby clothes. It will boost retail sales and consumer confidence, and it will help everyone in the retail chain, from assembly line workers and truck drivers to shelf stockers and sales people.

This national sales tax holiday we are proposing is immediate. Every American can take advantage of it. It will not break the bank, and it will directly stimulate our economy by boosting sales and supporting retail, transportation, and manufacturing jobs throughout our entire country.

Many businesses rely on the holiday season to make it through the year, and many workers count on those retail jobs before the holidays. Our bill will help both. Even before September 11, this was shaping up to be a very difficult time for retail businesses and the thousands of workers they employ. This sales tax holiday will give our economy a shot in the arm and will give families a break when they need it the most.

Our bill sets the date of the tax holiday from November 23 to December 2. That is the traditional start of the holiday shopping season. Many Americans are looking for ways to support our country. With the sales tax holiday, we can help jump-start our economy by buying things for school, for work, or for home.

It is all so easy. You do not have to wait for a check. You do not have to fit into a certain income tax bracket. You buy what you need, you put someone to work, you give our country a boost, and you save money.

Seven States, plus the District of Columbia, have used these sales tax holidays, and they have had great results. Under our approach, the Federal Government will reimburse States for the lost sales tax revenue. Right now we estimate the cost to be about \$6.5 billion, depending on how many States participate and how strongly consumers respond.

Under our plan, every penny of the \$6.5 billion will go directly into the economy.

In the coming weeks, the Senate will debate legislation to stimulate the American economy and to help workers who have lost their jobs as a result of the economic downturn. The final product needs to stimulate additional economic activity. It needs to boost consumer confidence and spending. It needs to encourage business investment and job creation. It needs to address the needs of workers and their families who have lost their jobs. It must maintain a commitment to fiscal discipline and the long-term economic health of this Nation. And it should help return the country to a sense of normalcy.

I believe the legislation I am introducing today with Senator SNOWE can be an important part of a balanced economic stimulus package.

First, our proposal will stimulate economic activity and consumer confidence. States and businesses that have participated in sales tax holidays reported an increase in sales during their sales tax holiday. Most importantly, businesses have found that consumers do not just shift their spending to the holiday period, but these holidays create new spending that would not have otherwise occurred.

Second, our proposal will stimulate business investment and job creation. Retail businesses will need to boost inventories to prepare for larger crowds. That is good news for manufacturers, distributors, and other businesses that help meet consumer demand for all kinds of products.

Third, it benefits all Americans. Low, middle, and upper income people all pay sales taxes on the products they buy, and since the sales tax is the most regressive kind of tax, lower income consumers will benefit the most.

Our proposal is fiscally responsible. This tax holiday will last for no more than 10 days in any State and, therefore, there are no exploding costs in the long term.

Our proposal does not negatively affect State and local budgets. Here, in fact, is how the States will get reimbursed: Every State that participates in the holiday will receive a quick payment of their estimated lost revenue.